



WHAT'S ON?

In the Parish of Upper Deal & Great Mongeham

Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas

Sunday 1st February 2026

For all the news, join our weekly email update, please contact
stleonardsoffice@btinternet.com

<u>St Leonard's</u> 8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Service without Holy Communion	<u>St Martin's</u> 11.00am Family Service without Holy Communion 4.30pm Choral Evensong for Candlemas With 'Cheerful Voices'	<u>St Nicholas'</u> 9.30am Family Service with Holy Communion	<u>St Richard's</u> 10.00am Family Service with Communion and Youth Choir
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WEEKLY PARISH COMMUNION Please join us on Tuesdays, 12 noon, in St Leonard's church after the Coffee Morning.



This week's music...

<u>St Leonard's</u> 200 Great is thy faithfulness 488 O breath of life 48 Be still and know 367 Jesus is Lord	<u>St Martin's</u> 66 Be thou my vision 39 Angels from the realms of glory 268 Gracious spirit, Holy Ghost 114 Colours of day 200 Forth in the peace of Christ, we go
<u>St Nicholas'</u> 179 God of mercy, God of grace 238 Blest are the pure in heart 104 For the beauty of the earth 131 Love divine, all loves excelling	<u>St Richard's</u> Children's choice

The Collect

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRINCIPAL READINGS

First reading: 1 Kings 17. 8-16

⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: ⁹ "Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food." ¹⁰ So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may

have a drink?" ¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

¹² "As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die." ¹³ Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴ For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.'"

¹⁵ She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶ For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

Psalm 36. 5-10

Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

⁶ Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep.

You, LORD, preserve both people and animals.

⁷ How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. ⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights.

⁹ For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. ¹⁰ Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in heart.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1. 18-end

¹⁸ The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written:

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord."

Gospel: John 2. 1-11

2 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, ² and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

⁴ "Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."

⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

⁶ Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. ⁸ Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, ⁹ and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside ¹⁰ and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." ¹¹ What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED ESPECIALLY FOR: Dennis Burney, Karen Fairclough, David Flewker, Mavis Harris, Michael Chambers, Michael Finney, Baby Lola, Baby Esmae, Tanneke Berwick, Margaret Thurgood, Andrew Russell, Heather Brennon, Barbara Sharman, Jean Gear, Dave James, Joan Finney, Ian Instone & his family. Adrian Morley, Wendy Turner, Elizabeth McConnell, Caroline Richards, Steve Milne, Jacob Alger. Also, Father George & all those in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

(Please let Wendy in the office know when names may be removed.)

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED Lord, hold them in your arms, bless and care for them. We ask that you also give peace and comfort to their families and friends and keep them in your loving strength as they come to terms with their loss.

NOTICES

SAFEGUARDING Please raise safeguarding concerns immediately with our Safeguarding Officer, Mandy Forrest 01304 372521 or 07999 910197

YOUTH CHOIR continues on the first Sunday of the month, 10-11.30am at St Richard's for all children 7yrs & upwards. Snacks will be served

JAMAICA FUND Bishop Rose has asked us to pray and give what we can for Jamaica. If you would like to contribute to a Parish collection please give cash donations in marked envelopes or bank transfer donations with a clear reference to that effect. We have collected £77 so far. Thank you.

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH HEATING We are very grateful for donations towards the cost for the times when we will have to heat the church. Thank you.

WHATSAPP GROUP Please use the link to join the new parish **WhatsApp** gp.
https://chat.whatsapp.com/IYnoITbxt0eB0mzylEbmRE?mode=ac_t

ST RICHARD'S HIRE has a new email for bookings strichardshire@gmail.com

VOCATIONAL TRAINING Please continue to pray for Rev John Wakeman, Rev Nick Tomaszewski, Stephen Manion & Julie Murrow.

SAVE THE DATE!

BELONGING COURSE A 6 week course continues on **Tues** 3/2/26 until 24/2, 6.30-8.00pm at the Rectory planned & led by Julie Murrow. Please see flyer.

MEN'S BREAKFAST Saturday 7th Feb, 8.30am at the Sir Norman Wisdom Pub

COFFEE MORNING FUNDRAISER Tuesday 17th Feb. 9.30 – noon in the Social Centre. The season kicks off with funds raised going to Emmaus.

Next Week's Services – Sunday 8th February 2026

<u>St Leonard's</u>	<u>St Martin's</u>	<u>St Nicholas'</u>	<u>St Richard's</u>
8.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Family Service with Holy Communion	9.30am Family Service without Holy Communion	10.00am Next service 15 th Feb 'Little Lights' breakfast service
10.00am Family Service with Holy Communion			

MORNING PRAYER WEEKLY 9.30-9.55am

St Richard's Mon, St Leonard's Tues, St Martin's Weds, St Nicholas' Thurs

CHURCH BANK DETAILS

Paying tithes and pledges electronically is easy. The details you need to know are below. We would also be delighted if you would complete the Gift Aid form if you pay tax, so that your monetary gifts would benefit from tax relief. The QR code below is a quick and safe way to donate to parish funds too. Thank you.

Account Name: Upper Deal and Gt. Mongeham PCC

Sort Code: 40-19-10 **Account No:** 31141228

Parish Giving Scheme URL:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/upper-deal-w-great-mongeham-deal/>
treasurerudgm@outlook.com



God of Mission,

Who alone brings growth to your Church.
 Send your Holy Spirit to give, Vision for our planning,
 Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our worship and power to our witness.
 Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you
 And in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**